

LittletonReport

February/March 2022

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What's Inside

All meetings, programs and events listed in this issue are subject to change or cancellation depending on health and safety considerations.







Littleton City Manager Announces Retirement

City Manager Mark Relph announced December 8 that he will retire from the City of Littleton on June 1, 2022. Relph has been Littleton's city manager since May of 2017. He was appointed acting city manager in July of 2016 after being selected as Littleton's public works director in April 2015.

Relph's appointment as city manager came with significant political challenges which he met head on. Immediately after accepting the position, Relph began a strategic process to transform the City of Littleton into a high-functioning organization by developing goals, work plans, and improved communication through standardizing procedures, policies, and documents. Among his many accomplishments are:



- Council adoption of the Envision Littleton community vision and plan in 2018 and the Comprehensive Plan and Transportation Master Plan in 2019
- Implemented Priority Based Budgeting, utilizing the innovative budgeting tool in increasing degrees each year
- Reorganized the Leadership Team and created an Executive Team, promoting women to 10 of the 13 positions
- Led the city through the pandemic by making difficult decisions regarding budgeting, staffing, and distribution of federal grants
- Unified Littleton Fire Rescue with South Metro Fire Rescue in 2019
- Created an Arts & Culture Commission in 2020 with council adopting the commission's Strategic Plan in 2021
- Took the lead in guiding eight jurisdictions to partner in a *Planning and Environmental Linkages Study* with CDOT to plan the future of the Santa Fe Drive corridor; and developed solutions to improve the intersection at Mineral Avenue
- Rezoned the entire downtown district from seven zone districts to one in 2020 and created a new Downtown Historic District in 2021
- Improved organizational development, training, retention, and morale; and created the City Manager Awards to recognize staff achievements in leadership and innovation
- Council adoption of the *Unified Land Use Code* in 2021
- Solved the revenue crisis in the Capital Projects Fund with voter approval of Ballot Issue 3A in 2021

"I've had a rewarding career but my work with the City of Littleton has been the most gratifying. We have accomplished a lot and I couldn't have done anything without my talented staff and our supportive city council. We've got a lot of work to do between now and June, but I believe that after our city council retreat in February, we'll come out with a set of goals that we can hand off to the next city manager to accomplish."

The Human Resources staff is prepared to retain an executive search firm with special expertise in city manager recruitment. The city council will implement a recruitment strategy and timeline over the next six to nine months.

Moving Forward with Santa Fe Drive and Mineral Avenue Intersection Improvements

The City of Littleton is moving forward with the Santa Fe Drive and Mineral Avenue Operational Improvements Project to reduce congestion and improve safety for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. Traffic volumes in this area will continue to grow as the economy thrives and with new development along the Santa Fe Drive corridor over the next 20 years. The project team expects there to be more than 90,000 vehicles per day driving on this stretch of Santa Fe Drive by 2040.

CONTINUES PAGE 2

Transportation Improvements Planned Along Mineral Avenue

The City of Littleton kicked off a project in Fall 2021 to identify and design transportation improvements in the area along West Mineral Avenue east of Santa Fe Drive to approximately South Windermere Street. Mineral Avenue is an important east-west corridor providing access to many local and regional destinations, including RTD's Mineral Light Rail Station to the west and businesses and services to the east. Improvements are needed to create safer and more convenient options for bicyclists and pedestrians who travel in this area.

Improvements will be considered at multiple locations and could include separated bike lanes and an improved trail along Mineral Avenue, changes at intersections to boost safety for bicyclists and pedestrians, and upgraded crossings of roadways for High Line Canal Trail users.

Through a robust planning process incorporating community input, the city will identify a set of improvements aimed at enhancing transportation mode choices and connectivity while increasing safety.

Community members are invited to learn about the project by visiting www.littletongov.org/MineralMobilityImprovements. Initial community input will be used to identify concerns with existing conditions and will support the development and screening of improvement alternatives. Selection of concepts and project design will occur in 2022, bringing additional opportunities for public comment.

The total budget for planning, design, and construction is \$2 million. The project is funded using a "Safer Main Streets" grant from the Colorado Department of Transportation. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2023.





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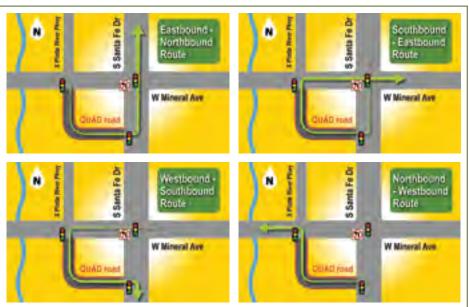
Santa Fe and Mineral Intersection

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The project is in the process of designing the best solution – a quadrant roadway – that was identified after conducting previous studies in 2018. The quadrant roadway is a proven and effective way to reduce congestion and improve safety at this intersection for relatively low costs and with minimal land impacts. Conceptual designs are planned to be presented to the public this summer.

Learn more about how a quadrant roadway works, sign up for the project distribution list, and stay updated on opportunities for engagement. Visit www.littletongov.org/santafe-mineral.





Rio Grande Bridge Removed

Work on the Rio Grande Street Bridge Project is approaching the halfway point. The existing pedestrian bridge was removed in December, and work adjacent to the 60-inch Denver Water conduit has started. The objective is to carry the weight of the new box

culverts directly into the bedrock, rather than through the Denver Water conduit. Additional utility and earthwork activities will be ongoing to prep for the box culvert installation scheduled for late February or early March.

The City of Littleton is working with American Civil Constructors to complete this project. For updates visit www.littletongov.org/RioGrandeBridge, scan this QR code, call 303-795-3919 or 303-795-3871, or email pwpg@littletongov.org or pwpmg@littletongov.org.





Denver Water Rate Increase in 2022

DENVER WATER

Denver Water's new rates, approved by the Denver Board of Water Commissioners in Octo-

ber, took effect January 1. For those experiencing a financial hardship, Denver Water partners with Mile High United Way 211 to assist with referrals to numerous programs.

Those who qualify can also take part in the Colorado Low-Income Housing Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). This federal program helps residents pay their water and wastewater bills, avoid shut-offs, and support reconnections related to non-payment. For information on LIHWAP assistance and eligibility, including income requirements, visit cdhs.colorado.gov/leap. For information about Denver Water's 2022 rates, go to denverwater.org/rates.

City Manager Recognizes Staff Achievements in Leadership and Innovation

The City Manager Awards were held virtually this year but the themes of recognition, dedication, and appreciation were the same. "This is always such a tough decision," said City Manager Mark Relph. "The staff continue to amaze me, they demonstrate ingenuity, resourcefulness, focus, organization, cooperation, creativity, humility, and patience every day."

The meeting began with a special recognition regarding the hard work and commitment of the employees involved in the completion and adoption of the Unified Land Use Code (ULUC). "This was perhaps one of the biggest achievements the city has had in quite some time. This project was a team effort so I decided to recognize the entire group," said Relph. The team consisted of 29 employees working across multiple departments.

Employee of the Year was awarded to Shannon Brennan. Brennen is a librarian at Bemis Public Library and works in Youth Services. Brennen's work with children and their families has a profound impact on childrens' literacy development and school success. Early in 2021, Brennen obtained a grant that brought in over 1,000 books for a kindergarten program.

Leader of the Year was awarded to Nancy Trimm, Bemis Library Director. Trimm set high standards for herself and the library staff who strive to meet those standards out of respect and loyalty to her and the hope she brought to Bemis during a tough year of short staffing. She is a master collaborator and gives staff permission and space to innovate, take risks, celebrate success, and learn from mistakes.

The Bemis Library Adult Services Team was honored as Team of the Year. Throughout 2021, the team worked with reduced staff due to layoffs, early retirements, and internal promotions during the pandemic. Together and as individuals, they took on additional responsibilities to make sure all citizens' literary needs were fulfilled including curbside and doorstep delivery. Additionally, in February 2021 they launched TheStudio@Bemis, a place for makers and creators that is equipped with technology and equipment to make creating more accessible to the community.

Cristin Russell was recognized with the Employee Innovation Award. Russell is an analyst in the Human Resources department. The Human Resources staff was challenged to find better ways to complete routine business. Russell identified reference checking as an area of opportunity and identified a new tool that simplified the process, allowing the department to improve efficiency, hire better candidates, and have good data to support hiring decisions. This will save the city \$300,000 annually.

The Municipal Court Team was honored with the Team Innovation Award. The court team implemented a new court management system in the record time of nine months with the support of IT project management. The team came together to drastically change the user experience for the Littleton Municipal Court, including online options. The historical model of the judge seeing defendants in-person was overhauled and now has a user focus.

The Utilities Crew was honored with the Safety Award. The Utilities Crew implemented a pathogen system on all equipment that is exposed to hazardous waste. These practices ensure the safety of the staff and community for years to come.

Grants Available to Businesses for Employee Training

In today's tight labor market, Skill Advance Colorado, a job training reimbursement grant program, can help businesses mold employee skills to match current business needs. Skill Advance Colorado, administered by Arapahoe Community College, is a grant reimbursement program that provides up to \$1,400 per employee to upskill or reskill them with customized job training.

Colorado First and Existing Industry Job Training Grant Programs support Colorado's workforce development by providing grants to both existing businesses and those locating to or expanding in Colorado. By reimbursing costs associated with job training, the programs increase transferable job skills that support business competitiveness and enhance workers' resumes and long-term employment opportunities.

Visit Skill Advance Colorado or contact Emily Martin at 303-797-5722 for more information. The application deadline is March 2022.



Planning for the Future of Santa Fe Drive Between C-470 and I-25

The City of Littleton, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), and several other municipalities continue to work on the Santa Fe Drive Action Plan. Santa Fe Drive has high annual average daily traffic and drivers along the corridor experience frequent congestion and costly travel delays. As the population of the southwest metro area grows, a vision and plan for future transportation improvements on Santa Fe Drive is needed. The Santa Fe Action Plan will examine design alternatives that will address overall congestion, traffic operations, multimodal capacity, and safety. Root causes of congestion will be identified through the analysis of current and projected traffic volumes in relation to the current

deficiencies on Santa Fe Drive such as structural bottlenecks, substandard roadway design, and system capacity.

The Santa Fe Drive Action Plan will develop long-term (20 or more years) and short-term (two-10 years) recommended alternatives that create a vision for the needed improvements on Santa Fe Drive. The long-term alternatives will be major improvements, while the short-term alternatives are projects that can quickly and cost effectively address existing problems. The Santa Fe Drive Action Plan will include development and evaluation of alternatives based on consideration of:

- Traffic congestion
- Roadway geometry
- Travel time reliability
- Local access
- Bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Access to transit
- Planning and environmental factors
- Impacts and benefits for the adjacent communities
- Public and agency input.

To learn more about the Santa Fe Action Plan visit www.codot.gov/projects/santafepel.



ARAPAHOE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Arapahoe County Begins Process of Creating Single County Health Department

Arapahoe County has begun a process for creating a single-county health department. The Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners took a step toward forming a single-county health department by clarifying its intention to depart the multi-county Tri-County Health Department (TCHD) partnership after December 31, 2022. Cities within the county rely on the county to provide public health services.

The board's approval of the December 14 resolution is a necessary procedure to establish a single-county health department. County residents will continue to receive all public health services from TCHD until a replacement health department and new board of health is approved and established. Find more information by visiting www. arapahoegov.com.

Murdoch the Basset Hound Elected Littleton Honorary Dog Mayor



The first-ever Littleton Honorary Dog Mayor was announced during the December 7 city council meeting. Five-year-old Murdoch, a Basset Hound, will hold a two-year term to coincide with the city council elections.

Historic Littleton, Inc., a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to preserving the historic and architectural heritage of the greater Littleton area, held the election this year on Instagram. The canine candidates were photographed in front of a historic Littleton building, with a post including a short summary of relevant Littleton history.

Murdoch won with an image of himself in front of the Littleton Courthouse. Many may recognize him from his long walks along the Mary Carter Greenway Trail and that in addition to his long ears, he has a big heart. Netty, a French Bulldog, came in second place and will hold the



position of Honorary Dog Mayor Pro Tem. Both Murdoch and Netty were sworn in January 18, and will be involved in several events throughout the next two years. To learn more about the Honorary Dog Mayors or Historic Littleton Inc. visit www.hlinc.org.

Temporary Outdoor Expansion Program Extended

The Temporary Outdoor Expansion (TOE) program was started in 2020 to help businesses cope with pandemic restrictions by allowing them to expand their service into their adjacent outdoor space. The city has extended the TOE program until May 1, 2022 to help meet the needs of businesses. In early spring, the city will reach out to participants of this program to discuss whether further extensions are needed. To learn more about Littleton's TOE Order visit www.littletongov.org/TOE.

District III Meeting February 19

Save the date! Council Member Stephen Barr will host a Littleton District III citizen meeting Saturday, February 19 at 10 a.m. All Littleton residents and business owners are invited to participate and attendees are encouraged to bring questions. The format will be similar to previous District III meetings. The in-person meeting will be at Black Rock Coffee, 7961 South Broadway, but this may change depending on venue availability and current COVID restrictions. For questions, contact Council Member Barr at sbarr@littletongov.org or visit www.steve4littleton.org for more information.

Littleton City Council



Kyle Schlachter Mayor kschlachter@littletongov.org 720-773-0401



Stephen Barr District III sbarr@littletongov.org 720-443-0465



Patrick Driscoll
District I
pdriscoll@littletongov.org
303-668-7877



Pam Grove
At Large
pgrove@littletongov.org
303-263-1152



Kelly Milliman District IV kmilliman@littletongov.org 720-468-1324



Gretchen Rydin At Large, Mayor Pro Tem grydin@littletongov.org 720-507-5401



Jerry Valdes District II jvaldes@littletongov.org 303-810-1465





Carboy Winery Receives Best in Show

The Colorado Wine Industry Development Board (CWIDB) awarded Littleton's Carboy Winery the 2021 Best in Show for its 2019 Teroldego at the Colorado Uncorked wine-tasting event November 5. This was the culmination of the 2021 Governor's Cup Wine Competition. Last August, a panel of sommeliers, chefs, writers, and wine experts from around the country gathered at Metropolitan State University of Denver to sample and judge more than 200 Colorado wines submitted to the competition. The panel selected 14 wines to represent the 2021 Governor's Cup Collection, including Carboy's 2019 Teroldego, which was also awarded the Double Gold Medal.

The award-winning wines will also be used for education at Colorado winemaker roundtables, to improve the overall quality of Colorado wines. Carboy Winery is located in Littleton at 6885 South Santa Fe Drive.



Littleton Police Shop with a Cop

On December 11, the Littleton Police Department (LPD) took part in the Shop with a Cop event. Due to the continued pandemic, LPD officers personally delivered 42 Target gift cards and various gifts to each child's residence versus the usual shopping in-person.

The LPD's annual Shop with A Cop program helps families who are not able to afford gifts during the holidays. Children are provided with a gift card and an optional gift of their choosing that they can pick from several "Santa's sleigh" patrol vehicles.

Free Solar PV Systems for Income-Eligible Homeowners

GRID Alternatives Colorado is a non-profit organization with a goal of building community-powered solutions to advance economic and environmental justice through renewable energy. The organization has partnered with Arapahoe County to provide free solar PV systems through its Energy for All Program to income-eligible homeowners throughout the county, including Littleton.



The Energy For All Program is funded by the Arapahoe County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, which supports community development activities to build stronger and more resilient communities. To qualify for the program, an applicant must:

- Own their home
- Report a gross annual income that is less than the area median income based on household size
- Have a qualifying roof (limited shading, good shingles, etc.) With a solar PV system, a homeowner is expected to save between 50 and 90 percent on their annual electricity bill. A solar system also helps the city, county, and state meet sustainability goals by reducing carbon emissions.

Once an application for the program is approved, GRID Alternatives Colorado will design a solar PV system based on the resident's electricity usage and roof specifications. The homeowner will own the system outright with no liens or loans.

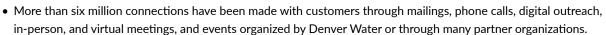
To read more about GRID Alternatives Colorado and the Energy For All Program, visit GRID Alternative's Colorado blog at www.gridalternatives.org/regions/colorado/news/learn-how-qualify-free-solar-grid-co.

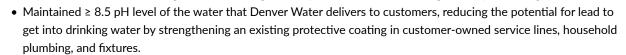
To apply for the program, complete an online application at www.energyforallprogram.org or call or email one of GRID's outreach coordinators: Mikkela Blanton at 303-968-1634 or mblanton@gridalternatives.org, or Chelsea Gaines at 720-943-5162 or cgaines@gridalternatives.org.

Year 2: Denver Water Lead Reduction Program

Two years ago, Denver Water launched its Lead Reduction Program, which is reducing the risk of lead getting into drinking water from customer-owned water service lines or plumbing that contains lead. Littleton residents receive their water from Denver Water. Since the program started in 2020:

- More than 9,500 customer-owned lead water service lines have been replaced, at no direct charge to customers, with lead-free copper lines.
- More than 230,000 replacement filters certified to remove lead have been distributed to customers enrolled in the program. This is on top of the more than 102,000 pitchers sent to program participants. Customers enrolled in the program should use filtered water for cooking, drinking, and preparing
 - infant formula until six months after the lead service line is replaced.





It will take until 2035 to replace the estimated 64,000 to 84,000 lead service lines in Denver Water's service area. Information about the neighborhoods targeted for 2022 replacement work is available at www.denverwater.org/Pipes. For more information about the program, visit www.denverwater.org/Lead.







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TREE SPECIES/ BOTANICAL NAME	SIZE/ PRICE	NOTES	MATURE HEIGHT	MATURE SPREAD	FALL COLOR	
LARGE SHADE TREES						
Sensation Boxelder Acer negundo 'Sensation'	%-1" cal. #7 cont.	hardy, great fall color, birds	30-35'	20-25'	red/ orange	
Ohio Buckeye Aesculus glabra	¾-1" cal. #7 cont.	showy, fra- grant flower, hardy, good fall color	20-40'	20-40'	yellow	
Glenleven Linden Tilia cordata 'Glenleven'	¾-1" cal. bare root	fragrant June flowers	40-45'	30-35'	yellow	
Catalpa Catalpa speciosa	¾-1" cal. #7 cont.	white flowers, long pods, xeric	50-60'	30-40'	yellow/ brown	
Turkish Filbert Corylus colurna	¾-1" cal. #7 cont.	edible ½" nuts in fall, xeric	35-45'	20-30'	yellow	
Hackberry Celtis occidentalis	¾-1" cal. #7 cont.	hardy, corky bark, adaptable	50-60'	40-50'	yellow	
American Yellowwood Cladrastis kentukea	¾-1" cal. #7 cont.	fragrant white flowers in June	30-50'	40-55'	yellow	
Kentucky Coffeetree Gymnocladus dioicus 'Espresso JFS'	%-1" cal. #7 cont.	hardy, white flowers, seed- pods, xeric	40-60'	30-50'	yellow/ brown	
Bur Oak Quercus macrocarpa	¾-1" cal. #7 cont.	long lived, rugged, xeric, wildlife	50-70'	40-50'	yellow/ brown	
Chinkapin Oak Quercus muehlenbergii	¾-1" cal. #7 cont.	shiny dark green leaves, wildlife	40-50'	40-50'	red/ yellow/ brown	
Shumard Oak Quercus shumardii	¾-1" cal. #7 cont.	more tolerant of high pH soils, wildlife	40-60'	40-50'	red/ orange	
Exclamation London Planetree Platanus acerifolia 'Morton Circle'	%-1" cal. #7 cont.	mottled bark, tolerant of poor soil	55-65'	40-50'	yellow/ brown	
SMALL ORNAMENTAL TREES						
Hot Wings Tatarian Maple Acer tataricum 'GarAnn'	¾-1" cal. bare root	red samaras in summer, xeric	20-25'	15-20'	yellow/ red/ orange	
Robinson Crabapple Malus 'Robinson'	¾-1" cal. bare root	red-pink flowers in May, no fruit	20-25'	15-20'	yellow	
Hedge Maple Acer campestre	¾-1" cal. #7 cont.	oval shape, glossy leaves, hardy	20-30'	20-30'	yellow/ brown	
Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry Amelanchier x grandi- flora	%-1" cal. #7 cont.	white flowers, black berries, birds	15-25'	15-20'	yellow/ red/ orange	
Redbud Cercis canadensis	¾-1" cal. #7 cont.	early dark pink flowers	15-20'	15-20'	yellow	
Hawthorne, Thornless Cockspur Crataegus crus-galli 'Cruzam' Crusader	%-1" cal. #7 cont.	drought tol- erant, showy flowers, birds	25-35'	25-35'	white	
Cleveland Select Pear Pyrus calleryana 'Cleveland select'	%-1" cal. #7 cont.	fast growing, white flowers, glossy leaves	30-40'	15-20'	purple/ red	

2022 Tree
Planting Program

The City of Littleton is celebrating Arbor Day by continuing its annual tree planting program with 18 species of trees available this year. The goal is to increase the canopy area and diversity of the urban forest. On Saturday April 16, city staff and volunteers will distribute 225 trees. Program participants will pay \$45 for bare root trees and \$65 for #7 container trees. These trees must be planted within the Littleton city limits.

All newly planted trees require regular watering, applied in all seasons, for 3-4 years after planting. Most of the trees offered are considered low or low-moderate water-demand trees which require minimal supplemental watering, once established. Trees requiring more water should be planted in areas with irrigation. Tree descriptions are available on the city website: www.littletongov.org/trees. An internet search will provide multiple images of these trees. Consider mature heights and widths when choosing species for specific planting locations.

Four types of trees will be provided in bare root form. Bare root trees are light and easy to handle but require immediate planting. Fourteen types of trees are provided in #7 air-pruned pots, a patented container about the size of a 5-gallon bucket, usually weighing 20-30 pounds. All the trees will initially be five to ten feet in height, with initial trunk calipers and mature sizes as indicated on the order form. They may be planted in the public right-of-way or on private property in the city, with an initial limit of six trees per single-family residential property. School PTOs and homeowner's associations are encouraged to purchase larger quantities.

Participants must make arrangements to pick up and plant their own trees and are responsible for all maintenance, pruning and watering. The trees must be picked up on Saturday, April 16, between 8 a.m. and noon at the Littleton Service Center at 1800 West Belleview Avenue. Planting instructions will be provided. Volunteers will plant trees for those who are physically unable.

Interested citizens should complete the application and return it with a check payable to the City of Littleton. The trees are available on a first-come, first-served basis with a March 18 application deadline. After this deadline call to check on tree availability. Call 303-795-3827 for more information.

2022 LITTLETON TREE PROGRAM APPLICATION					
Name:		Phone: Email:			
Address:					
	1st Tree		2nd Tree		
First Choice					
Alternate Choice					
	3rd Tree		4th Tree		
First Choice					
Alternate Choice					
Enclose check payable to City of Littleton: \$45 per bare root tree \$65 per #7 container tree Send application and check to: City of Littleton - Tree Program 2255 West Berry Avenue Littleton, CO 80120					
Return by March 18, 2022 (After March 18 call 303-795-3827 to check availability.)					
☐ I can help pick up and deliver trees in my neighborhood on April 16					
I can help plant trees for others					
☐ I am requesting help planting my tree(s)					
Comments/suggeste	ed species for future progr	ams:	-146		
	-	-			
	Call 303-795-3827	with an	y questions.		





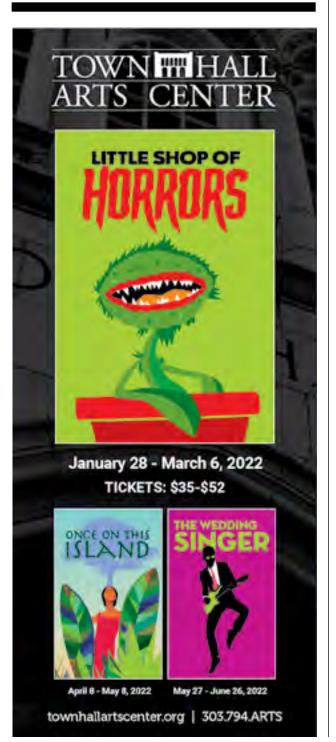
The Secret Life of Clothes

Check out the *The Secret Life of Clothes* exhibit at the Littleton Museum. The exhibit tells the everyday story of the lifecycle of clothes, focused on 1880-1910, and today.

With over eight billion people on earth, one of the common threads that humans share is wearing clothes as a basic necessity for protection and as a means of self-expression. Individuals once had a very intimate connection to the laborious process of its creation, care and storage. In more modern days, it has evolved into a highly accessible, but easily detached from and disposed of, means of societal expression.

The Secret Life of Clothes explores the overlooked journey of clothing as a progression from fiber to finished garment, sale to storage, and finally to mending, disposal or reuse. Visitors will experience a variety of fashions, as well as the tools, materials, and context of how those clothes were made, worn, cared for, mended, and stored.

The exhibit also touches on the future of clothing, considering the economic, cultural, and environmental impacts of the massive growth of the fast-fashion clothing industry and how new innovations are leading the way towards a more sustainable clothing lifecycle for future generations. Learn more about the exhibit, including hours at Littletongov.org.



Patterns of Consumption On Display April 1 - June 25, 2022

Patterns of Consumption Exhibit Coming Soon to Littleton Museum

By treating plastic with devotion, like the precious resource it is, Kalliopi Monoyios points a finger at consumerism as the root of the world's pollution problems, while honoring a material that makes modern life efficient and comfortable. Monoyios collects, washes, folds, and sews used food wrappers and other plastics into new sculptural works using similarly undervalued art forms like quilting, weaving, and embroidery. The body of work in this exhibit expands on Monoyios's themes of surprising and quirky uses of plastic, all with the goal of inviting people to think deeper about their own relationships with the material.

The exhibit will open in the Fine Art Gallery at the Littleton Museum Friday, April 1 and continue through June 25.



Eye of the Camera - Space to Wonder Opens at Littleton Museum

The City of Littleton Fine Arts Board proudly presents the *Eye of the Camera* juried art exhibition, featuring Colorado artists working in photography. This year's theme is *Space to Wonder*, juried by Rupert Jenkins. There is no science to explain what causes humans to admire those things that strike many as amazing. But wonder is a shared human emotion, some would say the hallmark of human experience. Does it have a sense of urgency or is it irrespective of time and physical location? This year's exhibition aspires to bring a *Space to Wonder*.

The exhibit will open in the Fine Art Gallery at the Littleton Museum Friday, January 21 through Saturday, March 12.



2022 Spring Catalog

The South Suburban Parks and Recreation (SSPR) Spring 2022 Catalog is now live online, and the printed version will hit homes in early February. In an effort to promote sustainability and a shift in the user experience, the SSPR quarterly catalog will look a little bit different in 2022. A hybrid of print and digital will engage patrons in a way that makes registering for a favorite class as easy as it was before. View and register for all of SSPR spring programs at www.register.ssprd.org.

Art on Loan 2022: Call for Artists

The South Suburban Public Art Committee is seeking submissions from local artists for the 2022 Art on Loan program. Artists are invited to apply by March 7, 2022. Selected sculptures will be displayed at Goodson Recreation Center or Hudson Gardens for a year, and artists will receive a \$500 honorarium for their display. Visit the SSPR website to learn more and apply.





Registration Open Now for Spring Break Camps

Have fun and learn something new at South Suburban Spring Break Camps! Kids can stay active with sports and recreation or get creative with crafts and classes at various day camps and workshops offered throughout the area. View a full list of camps and activities at www.register.ssprd.org.

2022 South Suburban Board Election

The next regular election for the South Suburban Parks and Recreation Board of Directors will be held May 3. Three board positions will be filled, each to serve a three-year term. Self-nominations will be accepted starting January 1. More information including polling locations, important dates, and instructions for receiving an absentee ballot is available at www.ssprd.org/election.

Like the news in the Littleton Report?

Get more news, more often by subscribing to the *Littleton Report Online* at **littletongov.org/news**.



BEYOND BOCKS... WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BEMIS LIBRARY?

Bemis Public Library | 6014 S. Datura Street | Littleton, CO 80120 | 303-795-3961 | Web Catalog: bemis.marmot.org

The Comforts of Reading: Adult Winter Reading Program—February 1–28

Re-engage with the joy and comfort of reading during this special month-long program. Each week, the library will highlight a theme and invite the community to reflect on favorite books and reading memories. Share recommendations for a chance to win book-related prizes. Discover what others in the community have enjoyed reading.

Bemis Hosting Free Housing Navigation Services Arapahoe County Housing Resource Navigation Services is offering free drop-in assistance at Bemis Public Library every Monday from 2:30–4:30 p.m. Housing Resource Navigators will help the public apply for housing, rental, or mortgage and utility assistance. Services are on a first-come-first-served basis.

YOUTH PROGRAMS



Books & Blankets at Bemis Every Wednesday and Thursday 9:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. For Families with Kids of All Ages Thirty minutes of stories and songs shared while socially distancing

outside on the lawn at the library. Story time will be held outdoors unless temperatures are below 45 degrees or in the case of high winds, snow, or rain. In these situations, story time will be held in the lower level meeting room.

Blind Play Date with a Book

February 1–14, For Kids in Grades 5 and Under Children can find a new book to love this Valentine's Day by checking out a surprise book. The most eligible books will be wrapped up and tagged with a clue. Children can select the one they like best, check it out, and unwrap it when they get home.

Paws to Read February 12 and March 12, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For Kids in Grades K-5*

Kids can practice reading to a furry friend. Presented by Denver Pet Partners and The Delta Society.

Merry-Andrew Afoot February 18, 11–11:30 a.m. For Families with Kids of All Ages Leroy Leonard is a one-person theatrical hoot playing all the parts in this silly play filled with

cowboy poetry, guacamole, and



Drop-In Discovery Art—Third Saturday of the Month February 19 and March 19, 1–3 p.m. For Kids in Grades 5 and Under

Drop in each month and explore different art materials and techniques. The library will provide materials and inspiration.

Animal Adventures with Safari Sally



rattlesnakes.

March 4, 3-3:45 p.m.
For Kids Ages 3 and Up
A fun and educational
presentation where kids will
meet a variety of live animals up
close and personal.

McTeggart Irish Dancers March 19, 3-3:45 p.m., For All Ages

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with members of McTeggart Irish Dancers as they perform a variety of foot-tapping, high-energy routines accompanied by traditional Irish music.

LEGO® Engineering Workshop March 21, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For Kids in Grades K-5*

Join Play-Well TEKnologies to explore concepts in physics, mechanical engineering, structural engineering, and architecture. Space is limited.

*Call the library beginning March 7 to register.

Puppets & Things on Strings with Ventriloquist Mark Hellerstein—March 25, 11-11:45 a.m. For All Ages

Participants will meet a couple of "talking" puppets, see a drawing come to life and enjoy a full-stage marionette puppet production of "Jack and the Beanstalk" narrated by Willy the Bookworm.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Creative Writing Contest Workshop February 2, 5–7 p.m.*

Find inspiration, get help, and work on an entry for the Friends of the Library and Museum Creative Writing Contest. Pizza and snacks will be served. For kids in grades 1–12 who plan to participate in the Creative Writing Contest. Registration is required.

Speak Up: How to Podcast—March 9, 5–6:30 p.m.* Learn how to use the technology in the new makerspace, TheStudio@Bemis, to create podcasts and other audio recordings. Registration is required.

Teen Advisory Group— February 9 and March 9, 5–6 p.m.

TAG gives teens an opportunity to improve the library and earn community service credit. Help plan programs, choose new books and games, make friends, and have fun. Snacks will be served.

Tweensday—For kids in Grades 5-12

- Chocolate Games—February 16, 5–6:30 p.m.*
 Happy Chocolate Games. Play games of skill and luck for delicious candy prizes.
- Who's Got the Button?—Mar. 16, 5-6:30 p.m.* Create custom buttons and pins.

GENERAL PROGRAMS

Mundo Mistico

- February 4, 9:30 a.m.—Nicaragua*
- March 4, 9:30 a.m.—Panama*
 Learn about Spanish language and culture through the lens of different countries. Each month, explore one of the 20 countries worldwide that claim Spanish as the official language. Hybrid in-person/virtual program: attend at Bemis or via Zoom.

Board Games at Bemis February 11 and March 11, 5-7 p.m.

Drop in after-hours for board games. Pizza and snacks will be served. Open to all ages.

Musical Concerts at Bemis

- February 12, 2 p.m.—Jerry Barlow
 Enjoy a musical performance with fingerstyle guitarist Jerry Barlow whose repertoire includes traditional music from the British Isles and his own original Celtic-inspired compositions.
- March 12, 2 p.m.—Laurie Dameron
 Enjoy an afternoon of jazz guitar with Billboard Magazine award recipient Laurie Dameron who has been playing the guitar for five decades.

Crafts at the Library

- February 19—Forever Flowers, Two Classes: 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 2-3:30 p.m.*
 Create paper and fabric flowers that can bring cheer in the depths of winter. Register for the time preferred.
- March 19—Here Comes the Sun, Two Classes: 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 2-3:30 p.m.
 Create suncatchers and light throwers to welcome the approaching spring. Register for the time preferred.

Dungeons & Dragons—February 23 and March 23, 5–7 p.m., Ages 10 to adult welcome*

Let the imagination soar with this popular roleplaying game. All experience levels are welcome. Teen volunteer Dungeon Masters can earn thank you gifts and community service hours for running tables. Pizza and snacks will be served.

Active Minds

- February 28, 2 p.m.—
 Harriet Tubman
 Tubman is credited with
 making at least 13 journeys
 as a "conductor" on the
 Underground Railroad guiding
 enslaved people to freedom.
 Active Minds will explore
 - the life and legacy of this remarkable woman remembered as "the Moses of her people."
- March 28, 2 p.m.—
 Salem Witches

In 1692 in Salem, Massachusetts hundreds of individuals were tried for the crime of witchcraft, and many were executed as a result. Active Minds will seek to understand



this astounding moment in the nation's history.

The Irish Miners of Leadville—March 8, 6:30 p.m. In the early 1880s, nearly 3,000 Irish immigrants lived and worked in Leadville. Jim Walsh, a historian and researcher at CU Denver, has spent two decades investigating the large number of unmarked graves found in Leadville's Evergreen Cemetery. Learn about the contributions these forgotten souls made and the planned memorial that will highlight their stories and lives.

BEMIS BOOK CLUBS

Bemis book clubs are hybrid in-person/ virtual events. Attend either in-person at the library or via Zoom using links on the All Events Calendar at bemis.marmot.org.

- Senior Book Group-Hybrid In-person/Online February 2, 1 p.m.*
- The Only Woman in the Room by Marie Benedict March 2, 1 p.m.*
- The Midnight Library by Matt Haig
- Evening Book Club-Hybrid In-person/Online February 16, 5:30 p.m.*
 The Highest Tide by Jim Lynch March 16, 6:30 p.m.*

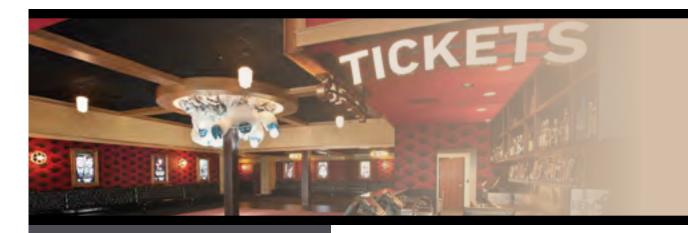
The Talented Ribkins by Ladee Hubbard

 Books & Beer Nonfiction Book Club Meets at Jackass Hill Brewery February 9, 6:30 p.m.*
 A Deal with the Devil by Blake Ellis March 9, 6:30 p.m.

Rocket Girl: The story of Mary Sherman Morgan by George D. Morgan

*To register, participate or join any of these programs go to the All Events Calendar from the Bemis home page at bemis.marmot.org.





COMMUNITY BUSINESS

SPOTLIGHT





Juniperseed Mercantile

Juniperseed Mercantile is a Littleton business with a passion for great skincare, simple living, and the earth that sustains us. Located at 5641 South Nevada Street, Juniperseed Mercantile makes all-natural bath and body products, home cleaning solutions, natural parenting essentials, and fabric UnPaper alternatives. The store invites customers to experience the process first hand by taking part in their Work+Shops. Customers can watch as the products are made, learn about the ingredients, team members, and sustainability practices first hand by visiting the production studio. Stop by the shop, visit www.juniperseedmercantile.com/ or call 720-398-9960.





The Nokbox

Start the new year off by organizing all accounts, household information, personal items, social media and more. The Nokbox or "Next of Kin" Box was created by a Littleton mom named Maria. When her father passed away, she and her family were faced with planning a funeral and figuring out what do with his estate, while struggling through mounds of paper work. The Nokbox has 14 different categories and it will account for every aspect of life. Each category has a set of labeled folders that cover different accounts, including insurance policies, home information, investments, health history, and more. The box enables families to grab-and-go if an emergency arises, and families will be prepared to easily manage estates if needed. Visit www.thenokbox.com to learn more.

Daisy Rock Outside

Daisy Rock Outside is a Littleton landscaping and design business that provides a full range of residential outdoor living services. Daisy Rock believes that with more people working from home, it is important to get outside and enjoy a space that is peaceful and relaxing. The company offers phone and in-person consultations to listen to clients and learn about visions for every space. They also offer computer-aided designs, equipped with notes and rough sketches. Daisy Rock has several

packages to design and install multiple sizes of cutting gardens. To learn more about Daisy Rock Outside or to schedule a consultation visit www.daisyrockoutside.com or call 720-539-1589.







Alamo Drafthouse Reopens

Acclaimed cinema-eatery Alamo Drafthouse Littleton recently welcomed back guests to its reopened and newly upgraded theater. After closing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Alamo Drafthouse Littleton made use of the down time to upgrade the theater for an even better cinema experience. The theater now features 689 luxury recliner seats across seven auditoriums. These fully reclinable seats also come equipped with a state-of-the-art ordering system.

Alamo Drafthouse provides a unique combination of theater and restaurant, showing first-run movies, independent films, and special events with an extensive menu made from scratch. Guests order all food and drinks from servers who quietly attend to them throughout the movie from inside the theater. Alamo Drafthouse is located at Aspen Grove, 7301 Santa Fe Drive. Visit www.drafthouse.com for tickets, showtimes, and more.

